

Oak Grove Branch, Florida Stake, made dependent branch on Lake City Ward.

**THOSE WHO HAVE PASSED AWAY**

Elder Matthew Cowley of the Council of the Twelve.

Fred H. Peck, Jr., president of Cannon Stake.

Wilmer J. Maw, president of Farr West Stake.

Elton W. Wardle, president of Lorin Farr Stake.

**STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT***For the Information of the Members of the Church*

The First Presidency issues the following statement of items concerning the condition and operation of the Church for the year 1953. The statement will include three sections: First, Statistical Information; Second, Financial Data; and Third, Miscellaneous Items.

**I. STATISTICAL INFORMATION**

Number of Stakes of Zion, at end of year .....	211
Number of Wards .....	1,655
Number of Independent Branches .....	229
Total Wards and Independent Branches, at end of year .....	1,884
Number of Missions .....	42

*Church Membership:*

Stakes .....	1,034,381
Missions .....	211,981
Total Membership (at end of year) .....	1,246,362

*Church Growth:*

Children blessed in Stakes and Missions .....	44,535
Children baptized in Stakes and Missions .....	25,771
Converts baptized in Stakes and Missions .....	16,436

*Social Statistics:*

Birth rate per thousand .....	39.24
Marriage rate per thousand .....	9.24
Death rate per thousand .....	5.68

(These data on births, marriages and deaths are computed from stake reports and do not include the missions)

*Missionaries:*

Number of missionaries in the missions of the Church (including those enroute to or from their fields of labor) .....	2,742
Number engaged in missionary work in the stakes .....	6,817
Total missionaries—December 31, 1953 .....	9,559
Number of missionaries who received training in the Missionary Home in 1953 .....	1,750

**II. FINANCIAL DATA**

This section will be presented under two headings:

*First, Expenditures for Church organizations which originate directly and indirectly from the office of the Corporation of the President, which expenditures are funded in the main from the tithes of the Church.*

*Administrative Expenses*

For salaries of Church employees in the office of the Presidency and the office of the Presiding Bishopric, and special committees; for the living allowances and traveling expenses of the General Authorities; and for equipment and miscellaneous items of office expense .....	\$ 1,407,913
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Monday, April 5

Third Day

*Stakes and Wards*

For expenses of 211 stakes and 1884 wards and independent branches, including the maintenance of buildings; expenses and mileage allowances of stake presidents and bishops; furnishings for stake and ward offices; erection, remodeling and repairing of stake and ward buildings ..... \$ 11,715,107

*Missions and Missionary Work*

For maintenance and operation of the established missions of the Church; living and traveling expenses of mission presidents; return fares of missionaries; for expenses of bureaus of information and of the Missionary Home in Salt Lake City; for free literature, radio and publicity expense; for erection, remodeling, purchase, maintenance and renting of meeting houses and other buildings ..... \$ 5,755,081

*Temples*

For expenses of the eight temples now in operation and for construction work, repairs and maintenance of all temple buildings, outbuildings, and grounds ..... \$ 2,781,191

*Welfare*

For the purchase of equipment, commodities and containers; for operating expenses of bishops' storehouses, and for the transportation of commodities; for the purchase, construction and remodeling of bishops' storehouses and other general welfare properties; for General Church Welfare Committee administrative expenses; and for the care of the needy—rents, light, fuel, hospitalization, burials, etc. ..... \$ 1,514,873

*General Buildings and Grounds*

For maintenance of and repairs and improvements to general Church buildings and grounds, including the Church Administration building, Church hospitals, Salt Lake Tabernacle, Assembly Hall, and buildings situated immediately adjacent to the Temple Block ..... \$ 552,388

*Schools and Educational Activities*

For operating expenses of the Church Educational System, including the Brigham Young University, Ricks College, Juarez Stake Schools, 18 institutes, 189 seminaries, and of the Deseret Gymnasium; and for the erection and repair of buildings; and for purchase of building sites ..... \$ 4,879,227

*Genealogical Society*

For the maintenance of the genealogical library, archives, temple index bureau, and allied departments; for recording, indexing, photographing and filing genealogical and temple ordinance data, including the names of 614,280 persons forwarded to the temples for ordinances; and for microfilm copies of genealogical records from 9 states and 10 foreign countries equivalent to 84,849 printed volumes of approximately 300 pages per volume ..... \$ 941,002

*Other Expenses*

For taxes and assessments; insurance; contributions to civic and non-Church educational institutions; for maintenance and repair of historic properties and monuments; for restoration of the Church Fire Insurance Fund; and for other purposes ..... \$ 353,597

Total (Church General Funds Spent) ..... \$ 29,900,379

Second, Expenditures which originate in the stakes, wards, missions, schools and other organizations and agencies of the Church, which are covered by institutional collections and by contributions of the people other than tithing.

For construction and repair of meeting houses and other buildings and for purchases of sites, buildings and furnishings ..... 11,922,841

For Stake, Ward and Mission Maintenance purposes (including auxiliaries' recreation expenses) ..... \$ 5,386,784

## STATISTICAL AND FINANCIAL REPORT

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For assistance to needy from Ward and Mission Fast Offerings .....	1,459,850
For acquisition of Storehouses and Budget Production projects (including the operating expenditures of said projects) .....	1,147,672
For assistance to Missionaries from contributions received by Wards and Stakes .....	253,114
For operation of the Primary Children's Hospital, of the auxiliary general boards, and of the temples .....	343,018
Educational Institutions—from tuitions and dormitory and other service income .....	2,801,065
Hospitals—for care of the sick—in addition to contributions to the Primary Children's Hospital and in addition to the amounts paid from tithes included in Part I .....	29,167
Auxiliaries—from publications, sewing projects, and other business income .....	1,619,120
Temples—from clothing rentals and other receipts .....	156,328
Deseret Industries, Deseret Clothing Factory, and group canning projects—from operating income .....	818,889
Welfare budget production projects—from operating income .....	1,482,350
Total expenditures from contributions and collections other than tithing .....	\$27,420,378
<b>GRAND TOTAL—Expenditures of the Church, from general funds, local contributions and other income, for the year 1953 .....</b>	<b>\$57,320,757</b>

At the end of the year 1953, the Deseret Industries had 315 persons working in their plants, 82% of whom were handicapped persons. The Deseret Clothing Factory, another branch of the Welfare Plan, had 68 individuals employed, many of whom were widows and elderly persons.

During the year, 79,585 man days of work and the use of equipment amounting to 14,254 unit days were donated in the production of the budget, 17,736 man days of work were donated in operation of bishops' storehouses, and 3,864 man days of work were donated in the construction of buildings for the operation of the Welfare Plan. In addition to these, 71 construction and remodeling projects were completed by the brethren, 44 of which were for the benefit of less fortunate members.

During 1953, 4,566 persons were given occupational counseling and 6,147 persons were placed in remunerative employment.

### President David O. McKay:

Elder Orval W. Adams will now read the report of the Church Auditing Committee.

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Elder Orval W. Adams then read the following report:

"Salt Lake City, Utah  
March 29, 1954

"President David O. McKay  
and Counselors

Dear Brethren:

The balance sheet, with supporting schedules, statement of revenue and expenditures, disclosing the financial condition of the Corporation of the President of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints for the year ending December 31, 1953, has been reviewed.

The records appear to be adequate, and the accounting system carefully kept. Disbursement of Church funds is controlled through a comprehensive budget system. Receipts for the year were in excess of expenditures. The Church is in strong financial position, and free from debt.

Respectfully submitted,

ORVAL W. ADAMS  
GEORGE S. SPENCER  
and HAROLD H. BENNETT

### President David O. McKay:

Our first speaker this morning will be Elder John Longden, Assistant to the Council of the Twelve. He will be followed by Elder Harold B. Lee of the Council of the Twelve.